

## Compassion

President Bush is committed to the goal of building a more compassionate America through our Nation's long tradition of helping individuals, families, and communities most in need. The President also believes that faith-based and community groups should be mobilized to help transform the lives of our neighbors by addressing many of our world's most challenging social problems.

### FY 2006 Budget Highlights:

- The Budget provides \$3.2 billion, an increase of \$382 million, to continue to expand the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.
- The Budget provides \$2.1 billion for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) program.
- The Budget provides \$4 billion, an increase of 8.5 percent, for Federal housing and social programs for the homeless, including \$1.4 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants.
- The Budget proposes to direct \$240 million to new efforts to support healthy marriages and responsible fatherhood.
- The Budget provides \$3.1 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to promote donations to charitable organizations from individual retirement accounts.
- The Budget provides \$100 million for the Compassion Capital Fund to advance the efforts of community-based charitable organizations, including faith-based organizations, by enhancing their ability to provide social services, expanding their organizations, diversifying their funding sources, and creating collaborations to better serve those in need. Included within this request is \$50 million for a new initiative to help at-risk youth avoid gang involvement.

### ***Strengthening Families and Helping Children:***

- The Budget provides \$100 million to fund competitive grants for States to develop innovative approaches to promoting healthy marriages.
- The Budget proposes a total of \$206 million in funding to expand the initiative that educates teens and parents about the health risks associated with early sexual activity and helps teens make healthy choices.
- The Budget supports reauthorization of Head Start and provides \$6.9 billion, including \$45 million to support State and local implementation of a demonstration authority to promote better coordination of existing programs.
- The Budget includes \$440 million, \$52 million above the 2005 level, for school-choice programs that support the establishment of charter schools and the expansion of school-choice options for parents and their children. Within this total, the Budget seeks \$50 million for a new Choice Incentive Fund that would provide parents of students who attend low-performing schools with expanded opportunities to transfer their children to higher-performing public, charter, or private schools.
- The Budget commits \$60 million to the Foster Care Independent Living Program to help older foster-care youth transition to adulthood and self sufficiency after leaving foster care.
- The 2006 Budget seeks legislation to provide states with the option of choosing an alternative system for foster care.
- The 2006 Budget includes \$50 million for competitive grants to programs that provide mentoring services to children with parents in prison.

- The 2006 Budget also provides \$10 million to support to community- based maternity group homes which provide young pregnant mothers with access to community-based coordinated services.

***Giving Ex-Offenders a Second Chance and Fighting Addiction:***

- The President's Budget provides \$75 million for the second year of the Prisoner Reentry Initiative to help individuals leaving prison make a successful transition to community life and long-term employment. Through the collaborative efforts of the Departments of Labor, Justice, and Housing and Urban Development, the Prisoner Reentry Initiative will provide job training, transitional housing assistance, and mentoring to tens of thousands of non-violent ex-offenders.
- In 2004, HHS awarded \$100 million Access to Recovery (ATR) grants to 14 States and one tribal organization to create substance-abuse treatment voucher programs. The 2006 Budget includes \$150 million to maintain existing commitments and expand access to effective treatment in additional States.

***Providing Shelter for Those in Need:***

- The Budget also provides more resources than ever for permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals who have been on the streets or in shelters for long periods. The 2006 Budget includes \$1.4 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants, nearly \$200 million more than appropriated 2005 levels. Altogether, the Administration requests \$4 billion in 2006 for Federal housing and social programs for the homeless, an 8.5 -percent increase.
- In 2004, the Federal Collaborative Initiative to End Chronic Homelessness, through HUD, and the Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Veterans Affairs (VA), funded 11 grantees across the country. Building on the success of this initiative, in 2006, the Samaritan Housing Initiative will provide up to \$200 million through HUD in new housing subsidies paired with case management specifically targeted to this population.
- \$268 million is being requested for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). This program provides grants to States and localities to provide housing to ensure that persons with AIDS have stable the home life needed to support a continuum of care. In 2006, HOPWA funding will reach over 67,000 households with housing assistance across 124 jurisdictions.

***Providing for the World's Most Vulnerable:***

- The Budget provides \$3.2 billion, an increase of \$382 million, to continue the President's five-year, \$15-billion commitment to fight global HIV/AIDS;
- The Budget provides \$2.1 billion for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) program. The Administration also strongly supports reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act based upon the principles of ensuring results, focusing Federal resources on life-extending care, and ensuring flexibility to target resources to address areas of greatest need, including to African-American men and women who are disproportionately burdened by HIV/AIDS.
- The Budget reflects a commitment to aid the rehabilitation and reconstruction of countries devastated by the tsunamis and relief for the victims of the tsunamis.
- The President is committed to help improve the economic and humanitarian crisis in Darfur as part of a FY2005 Supplemental request.
- The Budget reflects a commitment to abolishing the trafficking of human beings, which is a modern day form of slavery and an affront to human dignity. The President's 2006 Budget requests continued funding for the anti-trafficking program.

- The 2006 Budget provides \$3.3 billion for disaster relief – a level of funding consistent with the average annual disaster costs over the past five years.
- The Budget provides \$115 million in funding for support, training, and assistance programs to aid people and strengthen institutions that promote freedom and human rights and help establish the rule of law.
- The Budget provides \$345 million for the Peace Corps program, allowing it to open at least two new posts and maintain the existing number of volunteers.

#### ***Hunger Relief:***

- The Budget provides \$5.5 billion for the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, full funding for all those estimated to be eligible and seeking services.
- In 2006, the Food Stamp Program will provide an estimated \$33.1 billion in benefits to 29.1 million people.
- The McGovern Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program was permanently authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill with the objective of using U.S. commodities and financial assistance to jumpstart school feeding programs in poor countries. In 2005, over 2.2 million women and children will receive meals under this program. The 2006 Budget expands the program to reach over 2.5 million recipients.
- The Budget provides \$1.2 billion for food aid, including a new initiative to provide \$300 million as cash assistance, allowing emergency food aid to be provided more quickly to address the most urgent needs around the world

#### ***Providing Needy Families with the Energy They Need:***

- The 2006 Budget continues strong support for the Weatherization Assistance Program to cut the utility bills of low-income families while conserving energy. The Budget includes \$230 million for this program, which in 2006 will help insulate and improve the energy efficiency of an additional 92,300 homes of low-income families.

#### ***Refugees and Immigration Services:***

- The Budget includes \$552 million, or an increase of \$68 million, to assist States and faith-based and community organizations in resettling the growing number of refugees, asylees, and trafficking victims and for the care and placement of unaccompanied alien minors in safe and appropriate environments.
- The Budget also includes continuing funding for the President's multi-year, \$540-million initiative enabling U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to reduce the backlog of applications and ensure a six-month processing standard for all applications by the end of 2006.

#### ***Supporting Indian Schools:***

- In 2000, the President committed to spend nearly \$1 billion to address the backlog of Indian school construction projects. The Administration has met this commitment and has provided more funding for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) school construction and repairs in just four years than the previous Administration did in eight years. In 2001, only 35 percent of BIA schools were in good or fair condition. With the efforts funded in the 2006 Budget, over 65 percent of all BIA schools, or almost double the amount in 2001, will be in good or fair condition.